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\$25,000,000 FEDERAL AID FOR CAROLINA HIGHWAYS

Some Facts About Federal Aid of Peculiar Interest to The Counties Served by This Newspaper

Federal funds to the amount of \$25,000,000 will have been made available for State road projects by the end of the fiscal year of 1921. Under legislation enacted prior to the last Congress there are available for 1917, 1918, and 1919—and now apportioned among the States—\$29,100,000. To this, the last Congress added \$48,500,000 for the fiscal year 1919, making the total of Federal aid for road construction to the end of the fiscal year 1919, \$77,600,000. In 1920 there will be \$92,150,000 available for this work, and in 1921 an additional \$97,000,000.

The last Congress amended the Federal-aid law in such a fashion as to give the States more latitude in building. These changes became a law through the passage of the Post Office appropriation bill, sections 5 and 6 of which read as follows:

"Sec. 5. That the act entitled 'An act to provide that the United States shall aid the States in the construction of rural post roads, and for other purposes,' approved July 1, 1916, is hereby amended to provide that the term 'rural post roads,' as used in section 2 of said act, shall be construed to mean any public road a major portion of which is now used, or can be used or forms a connecting link not to exceed 10 miles in length of any road or roads now or hereafter used for the transportation of the United States mails, excluding every street and road in a place having a population, as shown by the latest available Federal census, of 2,500 or more, except that portion of any such street or road along which the houses average more than 200 feet apart: PROVIDED, That section 6 of said act be further amended so that the limitation of payments not to exceed \$10,000 per mile, exclusive of the cost of bridges of more than 20 feet clear span, which the Secretary of Agriculture may make, be, and the same is, increased to \$20,000 per mile."

North Carolina will get \$25,000,000 of this Federal Fund, to be received in installments of \$2,500,000 a year for 10 years. How much of this money Pasquotank and other northeastern North Carolina counties will get depends, in a measure, upon the enterprise and initiative of their road commissioners.

Road-building authorities are predicting that 1919, 1920, and 1921 will prove the greatest in the country's history in the matter of road construction. In view of the unprecedented appropriations of funds for Federal aid for road projects and the activities of the States in extending their road-building programs the prediction appears to be fully justified.

The Division of Public Works and Construction Development of the United States Department of Labor is authority for the statement that there has been a revision and enlargement of road-building plans in almost every State in the Union since the signing of the armistice. This is due not only to the pressing need for road construction which has been suspended during the war, except where construction was essential to military activities, but also to the obvious desirability and prudence of getting public works under way so there may be such a demand for labor as will absorb the labor surplus.

Ultimately there will be a labor shortage in the United States. At present there is a surplus, and this is apt to grow to embarrassing proportions during the next few months of demobilization if no conscious effort is made to immediately revive building and construction activities to provide buffer employment until our industrial readjustment has been completed. Quite as important is the effect of an immediate acceleration of construction work on general business conditions. Federal, State, and the municipal construction projects, assisted by private and corporation building activities will be potent stimuli for general business and will prevent the stagnation which would spell commercial disaster. Federal aid for road construction for 1919, 1920, and 1921 has been provided on a more liberal scale than ever before. If millions of Federal funds are not absorbed by the States in State road projects, it will be no fault of the Federal Government. Millions are available. How completely the possibilities of the present opportunity are approximated depends on the State administrations.

It is admitted in the Department of Labor that present construction costs are much higher than the prewar level. In part this is accounted for by freight rates on road materials established during the war to prevent the movement of these materials for work other than Government work. There is every reason to believe these rates will be revised at once. The effect of such revision will be favorable to reduced construction costs, but most authorities agree that prewar prices in this field will not be reestablished. The condition of our currency and the generally higher price levels throughout the world, so these authorities assert will not permit a return to prewar prices, and for these reasons present construction prices are not as abnormal as the popular mind is prone to believe them.

The Division of Public Works and Construction Development of the Department of Labor asserts, regardless of present construction prices, it is a

NEGRO'S 300TH YEAR IN AMERICA

Colored People Hold Celebration Monday—Bickett To Speak

The colored people of Elizabeth City and vicinity will celebrate the three hundredth anniversary of the transplanting of their race from Africa to America, in this city Monday, April 7. The principal speaker of the occasion will be Governor T. W. Bickett. Other speakers will be Prof. Kelly Miller, of Howard University; Dr. M. D. W. Norman, of Washington, D. C. and Dr. Chas. S. Morris, of Norfolk.

The principal exercises will be held at Mt. Lebanon M. E. Church. The Chamber of Commerce of Elizabeth City will co-operate with the colored people in making their celebration a success.

This celebration means much to the Negroes; more perhaps than a white man realizes. Three hundred years ago this race was peacefully pursuing its life in the wilds of Africa. Africa at that time wasn't more wild than a good many more continents, including America. And not all black men on that continent were wild men. The black races of Africa had developed a religion and believed in God. They were ingenious and industrious and had learned to work in iron. In fact the Africans were centuries ahead of Europeans in the discovery and application of iron ore to the manufacture of implements of war and agriculture. They fell into slavery because they were a genial, kindly, hopeful non-resistant sort of people. They were easy prey to brutal white traders with their strong drink, shot guns and priests.

Transplanted to America, the Negroes were placed upon the cotton and tobacco plantation of the South and on the farms and in the shops of the North. It was in the South that they best thrived. The climate and the open air employment best suited them. Here, under the lash, they toiled for more than two centuries. The Cavalier class of the South thrived upon their toil. They were housed in shanties that cost little to build and nothing to furnish. They were content with the coarsest and cheapest food. In eastern North Carolina they were fed upon Diamond Back Terrapin until a humane legislature passed a law prohibiting the feeding of Diamond Back Terrapin to slaves more than once a week.

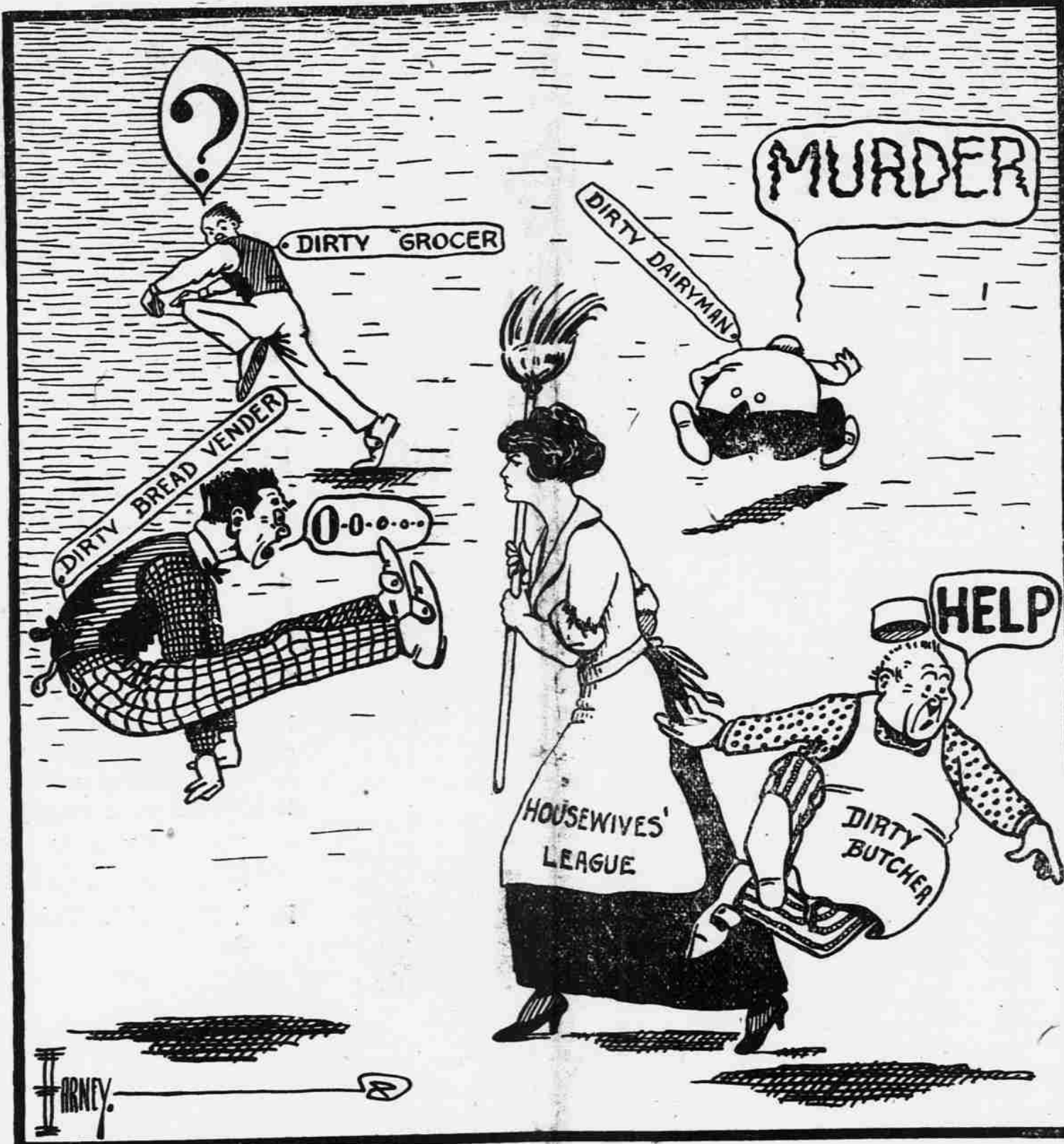
Diamond Back Terrapin was common food in those days and no self-respecting person would eat it. Epicurus made it famous only when it became scarce. A few years ago the fishermen threw away the ruse of the then bountiful sturgeon. Now they call it caviar and sell it for \$4 a pound.

And then came the war between the states and the emancipation of the Negro. Lincoln struck the shackles of slavery from the black man's wrists and ankles. But the Negro found himself in much the same fix of a white man who, imprisoned in the heart of Africa, might be freed and turned loose there to shift for himself. The Negro was emancipated in name only. He was still a slave to his strange environment and absolutely at the mercy of those who had been his masters. A splendid testimonial to the humanitarianism of the white people is the fact that the Negro did not fare worse than he did after the Civil War. It was a bad predicament for the unlettered Negro. It was a bad predicament for the lordly Cavaliers of the South for the lordly Cavaliers of the South to live on terms of political equality with blacks who had been their former slaves.

But somehow or other the blacks and the whites have lived on together. The Negro has made himself generally a good and useful citizen. He has acknowledged the education, social and financial superiority of the white race and shrewdly submits to it. By thrift and industry millions of them have acquired property. They have embarked in every profession and in every business and have developed wise leaders. They haven't had the opportunities of white men to advance in the arts of civilization, but they have made astounding progress in their time.

And now the Negroes come upon a great milestone in the history of their race in America. They embark upon another century and no one knows what it holds in store for them. Some say they cannot go on living side by side with the whites; that a clash of interests is inevitable and there is trouble ahead. The experience of the past and the facts of the present do not (Continued on page 10)

Go To It Sister, And God Bless You!



The Housewives' League of Elizabeth City has asked the State Board of Health to lend them the services of an inspector for the purpose of investigating the sanitary conditions of Elizabeth City stores, meat markets, dairies and other food supply agencies.



GARLAND M. ATWATER
MR. ATWATER, for several years identified with the pharmaceutical trade in this city, has purchased the Blount Pharmacy in Washington, N. C. and leaves Elizabeth City this week.

A COSTLY GAME OF BILLIARDS

City Attorney Who Bombarded Y. M. C. A. Fined \$25.00

Hon. Martin B. Simpson, City Attorney of Elizabeth City, who, it is alleged, amused himself about midnight of Monday, January 20, by throwing billiard balls thru the windows of the Young Men's Christian Association, was fined \$25 in the Recorder's Court Saturday morning. He noted an appeal. The bill of indictment was presented by a Pasquotank grand jury, led to both the young City Attorney Recorder Spence having hitherto failed with a trial.

W. G. Poole, who was indicted on a similar charge, was dismissed, there being no evidence to connect him with the midnight attack on the Y. M. C. A. Mr. Simpson denies the charge, but evidence is that some one in the vicinity of the Elks' Club bombarded the Y. M. C. A. with billiard balls, breaking out numerous window lights and creating a panic among the inmates. The billiard balls belonged to the Elks' Club and Mr. Simpson and another man were seen running to shelter in the Elks' Club about the time the balls were thrown.

A strenuous effort was made to hush the scandal. The policeman who swore out a warrant against Simpson was kicked off the police force and the original warrant pigeon-holed.

The grand jury at the March Term of the Superior Court looked into the case and presented a true bill, forcing Judge Spence to put the case on trial. Mr. Simpson was represented in court by his law partners E. F. Aydtlett and Mayor Sawyer.

FOR SALE—One Duroc Registered Male Hog. Reasonable price to quick buyer. Apply 18 BUNDLES AVENUE. pApr4-2t.

WHEN PASQUOTANK GETS ROADS

BY RALPH POOL

When we have smooth, hard-surfaced roads thruout old Pasquotank, instead of present quagmire sloughs, all cozy, deep and dank, we'll cease to envy bears and such who, as some goofs relate, in winter do not travel much, but mostly hibernate. When boulevards become a fact, as soon indeed they will, we'll miss the old-time muck and mire, the jolt and jerk and spill, that lo these many years have been the lot of those who'd ride, in spite of all the handicaps, about the countryside. Paved thoroughfares will soon extend through every neighborhood; that cool half-million shiny plunks will do a bunch of good.

Then Samuel Spudds, some ten miles out, a sporty farmer guy, will do his chores and shine his shoes as evening draweth nigh, and rolling his tin-lizzie out from underneath the barn, will wind it up and start to town—and never give a darn! Full well he'll know that yawning holes are lying not in wait to stall his car and get his goat, and make him six hours late. Perhaps he'll bring his wife along, and as they smoothly speed toward our town, they may decide to get a city feed. If so, we hope that Betsy Town may boast a nifty place, where one who has an appetite will like to feed his face.

The gent with moss upon his back, the bug who always howls, no matter what the live ones start, is making plaintive yowls; but blithe we titter at his wrath, at all he has to say, for now the stingy cuss must dig—his tribe has lost the day!

MERCHANTS TIRED OF THIS DISCRIMINATION

They Want Freight Rates From Elizabeth City to Points on Chowan, Cashie and Roanoke Rivers

A Committee of the Chamber of Commerce is trying to relieve Elizabeth City of a discrimination in the matter of freight rates to points on Chowan, Cashie and Roanoke rivers. Elizabeth City has no freight tariff on these points. All rates are figured on the Norfolk tariff and Elizabeth City jobbers and wholesalers pay the same rate of freight to points on the Roanoke, Cashie and the Chowan, as paid by Norfolk merchants. The Norfolk jobber or wholesaler ships his goods to those points thru Elizabeth City and gets the same rates charged from Elizabeth City. Either the rate of freight between Norfolk and those river points should be increased, or the rate between Elizabeth City and those river points should be reduced. Elizabeth City jobbers and wholesalers are getting everlastingly tired of this sort of discrimination. It is just this sort of thing that keep the Norfolk Southern railroad in bad with so many business men in Elizabeth City, and then the officials of this road are forever whining because Elizabeth City knocks the Norfolk Southern now and then.

Honoring the Dead.
The great Japanese shrine of the Imperial ancestors at Yamada, in Ise, is taken down every twenty years and exactly reproduced. For many years every Japanese felt it his duty to visit the great shrine at least once.

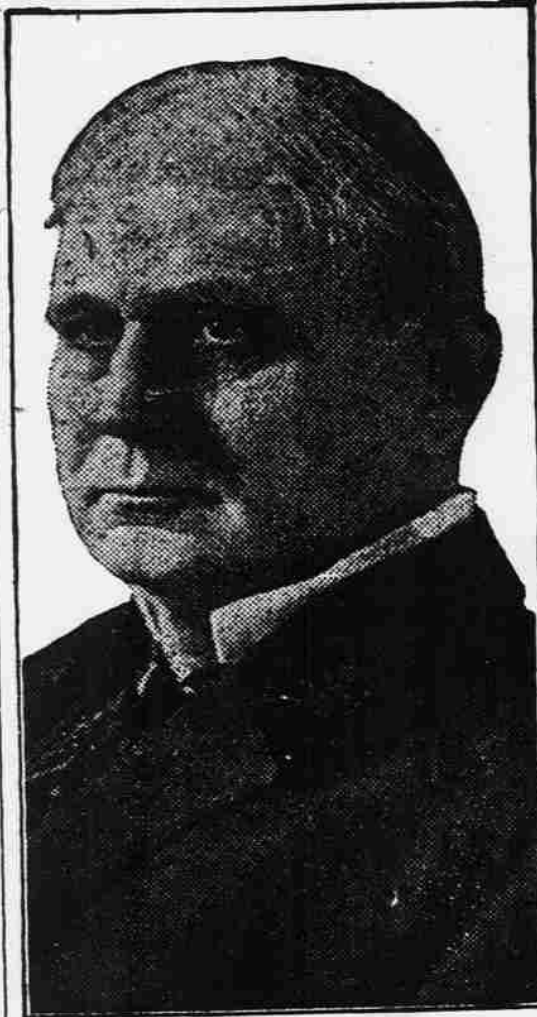
TEACHERS' EXAMINATION WILL BE HELD NEXT WEEK

A state Examination for teachers will be held at Currituck Courthouse next Tuesday and Wednesday, April 8th and 9th, beginning promptly at 9 o'clock Tuesday. The examination will be held for the following certificates: High School Principal's, High School Teacher's, Primary Teacher's, Grammar Grade Teacher's and Supervisor's. The dates for this examination are fixed by law and cannot be held at any other time. Teachers intending to teach next session and do not have certificates in force are urged to take this examination, otherwise they will not have another opportunity before the October examination.

W. P. DUFF COUNTY CHAIRMAN VICTORY LOAN
At a great sacrifice, Mr. W. P. Duff, of the Duff Piano Co., has consented to serve as chairman for Pasquotank County in the next Liberty Loan Campaign.
The chairman of the other counties in our district are: L. W. Norman, Perquimans; J. H. McMullan, Jr., Chowan; R. M. Riddick, Jr., Gates; D. E. Williams, Camden; and D. W. Griggs, Currituck.
To put the campaign "over the top", will require the untiring efforts of our Liberty Loan Workers.
H. G. KRAMER, District Chairman.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD TUESDAY, MAY 13

Elizabeth City Can Have Sensible City Manager Form of Government If It Will Bestir Itself And Elect an Honest Board of Aldermen



CHAMP CLARK.

HON. CHAMP CLARK, former speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, one of the truly unique personalities in American life, will speak at the Alhambra Theatre in this city Wednesday evening, April 9, 1919.

CHAMP CLARK TO SPEAK IN ELIZABETH CITY

Genius, like death and music is one of the few great democratic things in this universe. It beats down the dividing lines of caste and party and station and makes as its own the tribute of the man on the top and of the man at the bottom of the ladder.

Champ Clark, of Missouri, furnished one of the most striking exemplifications of this law. The Speaker of the National House of Representatives visit here, is an important event. Next to being President of the United States, the Speaker of the House is regarded as the most potent man in American public life. The office carries with it tremendous responsibilities and almost unlimited powers.

Champ Clark is a man with a wonderful personality. He is one of the great and unique figures in public life today. He is a man of unusual ability, great descriptive powers, a brilliant wit and a charming man to meet personally. Both as public speaker and in conversation he is captivating. Original in expression, he has a way of stating things that is peculiar to himself, which makes him a striking character.

His statesmanship and his prominent position in public life contribute to make his coming to Elizabeth City something out of the ordinary. It means the visit to this city of a great public man and a national character.

The St. Louis Republic says of his recent visit there: "The most scholarly and classical, yet thoroughly entertaining address that has been delivered in Columbia for years was that of Champ Clark before the University Law Class. The auditorium of the university was crowded with eager auditors, expecting a fine address, in which expectation they were not disappointed. Mr. Clark had for his subject 'Daniel Webster.' He traced the career of the distinguished New Englander thru his various vicissitudes. The entire address was striking for its felicitous conception, for its learning, for its graphic illustrations and picturesque phraseology."

His subject "Picturesque Men and Some Present Day Problems" should prove a most appropriate subject for this distinguished man, and the people who hear him will no doubt feel deeply appreciative of his coming to this city.—adv.

THE MIRROR TELLS YOU whether your glasses are mechanically fitted; whether the lenses are of the correct size; whether your eyes are in the center of both lenses or whether your eye lashes just miss them; whether the nose or ear pieces, or bows, are comfortable. If your mirror tells you that your glasses are not just right, better have HATHAWAY look them over. It not only takes a skilled Optometrist to fit the eyes, it takes an expert mechanic to fit and adjust the glasses to your face. HATHAWAY service combines perfected Optometry with expert mechanics.

DR. J. D. HATHAWAY
Optometrist
Phone 999 Bradford Bldg.

Elizabeth City's next municipal election will be held on the second Tuesday after the first Monday in May, which, being interpreted, means Tuesday, May 13, 1919. The Board of Aldermen will officially call the election at their meeting next Monday night.

It has been customary in Elizabeth City to hold a primary preceding the election. The primary is called by the various Ward chairmen and, customarily 30 days notice is given in advance of the primary election. It has been intimated that the primary may be dispensed with this year. It is pointed out that it is a rather useless expense, since the town can do in one day's election with one day's election machinery, what it would do in both a primary and a regular election.

But the failure to hold a primary would make this difference: it would mean a free for all race for office in the election. The purpose of the primary is to sift down the number of candidates for office. No primary, no sifting down.

Elizabeth City will elect a board of eight aldermen in the election on May 13. Each ward elects two aldermen.

This Board of Aldermen will take office on the first Monday in June, 1919, and, immediately after organization, will name a Mayor, a City Manager, a Chief of Police, a City Auditor, a City Tax Collector, a Fire Department Chief and other appointive offices.

The voters of the city have no voice in the election of any officers except Aldermen. It is therefore all important for the voter to exercise a great deal of caution and commonsense in choosing his aldermen. In this election personal friendship and good fellowship should be laid aside and each voter should pick the best man in his ward capable of conducting a \$75,000 business.

Elizabeth City is a big business like corporation the cost of operation of which amounts to about \$75,000 a year. One good business man, capable of running a big business like the Dare Lumber Co. or the Elizabeth City Hosiery Mills, or the Elizabeth City Ship Yard, could run this town on a business-like basis and save the town a good many dollars in the run of year. It was upon this theory that the city obtained legislative authority in 1915 to adopt the City Manager Plan of government, a plan that has proven a great success where tried.

But the politicians in Elizabeth City don't like the City Manager plan and they have made a joke of the office of City Manager. Instead of hiring a capable manager worth a salary of \$2,500 or \$3,000 a year, the politicians have put a brick-layer in the job at \$1,000 a year and divested him of all authority. Mr. Bill Jones, City Manager of Elizabeth City, has no authority to do anything except obey orders. He is a good and honorable citizen, but absolutely inexperienced in city administration and wouldn't know a lesson in political economy from an advertisement for a Liberty Loan.

Elizabeth City can have the City Manager plan of government just as Norfolk and other wide-awake cities have it, if it will be sensible and elect an honest, broadminded, capable, non-political board of aldermen. To do this it is necessary to defeat every professional politician who aspires to aldermanic honors; it is necessary also to find out who holds a mortgage on every other fellow who comes out for alderman.

Elizabeth City is badly handicapped by bunglesome, wasteful and incompetent methods of administration; by an inadequate and inept police department; by bad streets, dirty streets, neglected streets. Elizabeth City has a \$40,000 market house on its hands that is a failure because the politicians wish it to be a failure. Whiskey and substitutes for whiskey are sold in vast quantities in the city. Women of ill fame operate with little molestation. Every department of the city's activities is subject to criticism. It will be interesting to see what the citizens will do about it in the coming election. This newspaper would like to see the citizens get out and elect a set of aldermen who have never before held office, chosen for this election because of their established integrity and business ability; a board of aldermen who would not lie awake nights scheming how to run the town; a board of aldermen that would go outside Elizabeth City and employ a trained city manager to handle the administration of this city's problems for the next two years.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

Mrs. Emma Broyles, the blind lady, formerly Miss Emma Jackson, will give a musical entertainment at Epworth school house, Thursday, April 10th. She will also show how the blind are taught to read and write. Doors open at 8 p. m. Admission 10c and 15c. Refreshments will be served after the entertainment. For the benefit of the Epworth Church.—adv.

Remedy for House Fleas.
Sprinkle the places where the pests appear with a thick layer of the following preparation: Insect powder, eight ounces; borax, eight ounces, and oil of pennyroyal, two drams.